

November 25, 1968

A. George Abbott, MD  
4718 Saratoga Avenue  
San Diego, California 92107

Dear George, Malvina, and all the others too numerous to mention:

I got home after midnight Saturday and with several New Orleans emergencies with which to copy by remote control I have not had time even to empty my attache case. Hence the delay in thanking you for your many kindnesses and for the really fine job you did arranging appearances.

There were several fortunate accidents after I left California. The first was going to New Orleans at all. This time I was able to obtain all the existing official movie footage known in the Warren Commission material, among other things, I was able to make new contacts, open new sources, and was on the spot when conditions seemed propitious for accepting a six months standing invitation to visit Dallas as the guest of a very famous man who must be anonymous. The kind of people one might expect would never talk to us were cordial to me. I believe I now have a very good relationship with them and that as they can they will be helpful. Radio and TV appearances there were improvised and friendly. With all this, in four days I was also able to interview a number of the many witnesses, learn much from them, and tape an interview with one of the "missing" ones and leave a good foundation for future work there. Most improbable was my unexpected return to New Orleans from Dallas. Here I address you in strictest confidence. Had I not, for entirely different reasons, in the words of one member of Garrison's staff, the entire investigation might have been blown up by now. His successful torpedoing had been implanted. It is now defused. The ultimate result, I think, will be beneficial. I think we have now exposed a major penetration. Please share this only with Nick and in strictest confidence.

Again in confidence, you are too blind with Garrison. He is dedicated, he is not God. I think it is a mistake not to interpose your own editorial judgment when you come to something like the Chrisman press release. On the face of it, it is credible. You should have realized, once Chrisman agreed to go to New Orleans without any resistance at all, the probability of the charges being true were slim. This I believe is one of the implants I hope we have now stopped.

I very much appreciate the personal check you sent, much as I regret the fact that this trip, meagerly as I lived, put me another \$250 bucks in hawk.

Undertaking what I have just done by remote control is an exceedingly difficult operation, but it was successful. That it was successful is a remarkable thing for the odds against it were terrific. I hope to be able to return there and really clean up either the first with Bud (who had asked me to go there with him for two weeks before leaving the country six weeks ago) or with Vince Salandria, who was our secret weapon and who plans to go there on the 4th. If Bud changes his plans, I do not now know where the ticket will come from.

At some point I hope it will be possible to arrange a few meaningful paid appearances in California. Going back to December 1966, those trips I have

Abbott - 2

made where I was assured my expenses have increased my indebtedness by not less than \$850, exclusive of the cost of recent side trips.

Long-suffering Lil is taking this in short-hand while we drive to Washington for medical and dental needs and to see your dad. Gum tenderness when I was with you became an abscess and a New Orleans dentist thinks the effects will be serious.

Again my deep appreciation to all of you who were so wonderful. I look forward to a repeat.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg